

SHORT REPORT 2009

Key figures in the twelfth financial year

- Total funds used: CHF 9.7 million (previous year CHF 9.1 million)
- Direct grants CHF 8.7 million (CHF 8.2 million) for 37 (27) projects including implementation grants
- 7 projects (2) < CHF 50,000, 29 (22) between CHF 50,000 and CHF 500,000, 1 (3) > CHF 500,000
- Foundation expenditure 9.5 % (9.8 %), of which 3.4 % (3.8 %) administrative expenses
- Foundation assets as at 31.12.09: CHF 180.5 million (previous year CHF 167.3 million)
- Investments: Net portfolio yield 14.1 % (previous year -17.3 %)

Board of trustees

Prof. Dr. Rudolf Marty (since 2005; chairman), Prof. Dr. Peter Forstmoser (since 1997; deputy chairman), Prof. Dr. René Dändliker (since 2007), Prof. Dr. Susan Gasser (since 2006), Christiane Langenberger (since 2008), Prof. Dr. Jürg Schifferli (since 2007), Prof. Dr. Carl August Zehnder (since 1998)

Office

Dr. Philipp Egger, foundation manager; Dr. Pascale Vonmont, deputy foundation manager; Jacqueline Grollimund, project controlling; Corinne Burkhardt, back office

Committees and Advisory Boards

Chairman's Committee, Nominations Committee, Finance Committee, Eastern Europe Committee, «Rare Diseases» Advisory Board, «Modellprojekte Fachhochschulen» Advisory Board, «venture kick» Strategy Board

External units

Accountants: Bourcart Treuhand AG, Basel
Auditors: Copartner Revision AG, Basel
Banking partners: UBS Global Asset Management, Zurich
Investment Controlling: ECOFIN Investment Consulting AG, Zurich
Supervisory authority: Swiss Federal Supervisory Board for Foundations, Berne

Selection

The evaluation of project inputs is based on a defined grantmaking strategy; selection by the board of trustees follows a two-level process. If a project proposal is approved, an invitation is extended to submit an application. Not all projects that meet the grantmaking strategy criteria can be financed. This is why, in a final step, a ranking is drawn up which leads to the exclusion of applicants as «approved but not funded».

Transparency

The website presents the Foundation's grantmaking strategy in the form of areas of activity, it openly discloses the support criteria and provides information on procedures. Every project supported is described in detail: Project managers, the total grant amount, abstract, project status and results. All information reported, which is structured by project stages, is continuously updated.

Good governance

GEBERT RUF STIFTUNG complies with the Swiss Foundation Code and is a member of SwissFoundations.

Publishing details

Layout and design: a+ Büro für Konzept und Gestaltung, Basel
The present Short Report by the Foundation's management is also available in German and French. The full Annual Report of the board of trustees in accordance with Swiss GAAP ARR 21 can be downloaded from the website as of May 2010.

www.grstiftung.ch

SHORT REPORT 2009 ENGLISH



PUBLIC CALLS FOR PROJECTS

Rare Diseases; New Technologies – GEBERT RÜF STIFTUNG aims to improve the transfer of knowledge from research to the clinic. Grants are given to applied research projects which promote the implementation of innovative technologies for the diagnosis, characterization and treatment of rare diseases and so close a gap that exists today.

BREF; Brückenschläge mit Erfolg – GEBERT RÜF STIFTUNG finances and monitors projects which serve as models for the development and positioning of the Universities of Applied Science in their bridging function with the world of business. Support is given to promising model projects and the dissemination of their results in order to make more effective use of the specific potential of the Universities of Applied Science.

venture kick – With this pre-seed fund, GEBERT RÜF STIFTUNG – in collaboration with AVINA STIFTUNG, ERNST GÖHNER STIFTUNG and OPO-Stiftung – addresses a gap in the transfer of innovation within Switzerland: A science-to-market strategy is designed to serve as a launch pad to enable young scientists to turn their research results into products, companies and jobs more quickly, in greater numbers and more successfully than in the past.

COOPERATION

Achieving more with less

The annual financial statements of Swiss Universities show that foundations contribute only a few percent to their funding. However, their contribution has a tangible effect when, on the one hand, foundations close gaps (risk, innovation) and, on the other, they engage in grantmaking activities in cooperation with other partners. GEBERT RÜF STIFTUNG maintains:

Partnerships with other grantmaking foundations

- Programme partnership «venture kick» with AVINA STIFTUNG, ERNST GÖHNER STIFTUNG and OPO-Stiftung
- Programme partnership to launch Fondation des Fondateurs with AVINA STIFTUNG
- Project partnerships with atDTa – Stiftung Hilfe zur Selbsthilfe, AVINA STIFTUNG, Christoph Merian Stiftung, ERNST GÖHNER STIFTUNG, Fondation Leenards, Fondation Nestlé pour l'Art, Fondation pro Victimis, Hasler Foundation, Mercator Stiftung, OPO-Stiftung, Sophie und Karl Binding Stiftung, UBS Culture Foundation, Velux Stiftung, Volkart Foundation, Zuger Kulturstiftung Landis & Gyr

Partnerships with government sponsors

- Programme partnership «Modellprojekte Fachhochschulen» BREF with the Rectors' Conference of Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences (KFH)
- Programme partnership «Academic Swiss Caucasus Net» ASCN with the University of Fribourg/Freiburg
- Project partnership «Bilateral Cooperation» with the State Secretariat for Education and Research SER
- Project partnerships with various Swiss Universities

Partnerships with organizations

- Programme partnership with SwissFoundations, Association of Swiss Grantmaking Foundations
- Programme partnership with the Centre for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS), University of Basel
- Project partnership «scientainment» with 20minuten

ACADEMIC SWISS CAUCASUS NET – since 2009

Commitment to Eastern Europe

In implementation of the Foundation's purpose, GEBERT RÜF STIFTUNG maintains a bilateral Eastern Europe programme. From 2000 to 2008, with the Swiss Baltic Net the focus was on the encouragement of young scientists. Following the integration of the three countries Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania into Europe, the grantmaking programme was brought to a conclusion.

Focus South Caucasus

The new Eastern Europe programme focuses on the South Caucasus, one of Europe's key-gateways, primarily between the two countries Georgia and Armenia. In collaboration with the Interfaculty Institute for Central and Eastern Europe (IICEE) of the University of Fribourg/Freiburg, the emphasis is on awarding grants to individuals in the social sciences and humanities. The objective is to strengthen key competencies in those sciences which promote the process of democratization in societies undergoing transformation.

